

Education USA
Webcast
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Wang Han: We are at the U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai. Today's web chat is on Education USA. So I'm very pleased to be able to welcome colleagues from Beijing. First, Dr. Lauryne, how are you today?

王汉：我们在美国驻上海领馆。今天的网络视频聊天是关于美国教育咨询中心。我非常高兴欢迎北京的同事。这位是 Lauryne 博士。你好吗？

Lauryne: I'm fine, thank you.

马兰：很好，谢谢。

Wang Han: Do you mind telling our viewers your Chinese name?

王汉：你可以向观众讲一下你的中文名字吗？

Lauryne: Of course. My Chinese name is Malan, so you may see me on-line as Malan Boshi.

马兰：可以。我的中文名字是马兰。你可以看到我在网上被称作马兰博士。

Wang Han: Thank you, and would you mind introducing your colleague there as well?

王汉：谢谢。你要也来介绍一下你的同事吗？

Lauryne: She can introduce herself.

马兰：她可以做自我介绍。

Jenny: Hi everyone, I'm Jenny Yu, Education USA Program Manager in the U.S. Embassy Beijing.

Jenny：大家好，我是 Jenny Yu，美国驻北京大使馆美国教育咨询中心的项目经理。

Wang Han: Thank you to both for participating today.

王汉：谢谢你们今天前来。

The series that we've been doing is aimed at Chinese students who might be interested in studying in the States. We've done one on the visa process and on the Open Doors Report that came out in the fall. Also on student life in the U.S.. Today is our final one and it's a very important piece which has to do

with how to pick a university, which I think is something that a lot of students really struggle with.

我们做的这个系列是面向想去美国学习的中国学生的。我们已经做过一个关于签证的网络聊天，一个关于去年公布的“门户开放”报告的。还有一个是关于美国的学生生活的。今天是我们这个系列的最后一场，聊得是如何选择学校，所以非常重要，我想这也是很多学生非常想了解的话题。

To begin with, could you tell us a little bit about Education USA, what it is and when it started, just sort of a general overview?

开始前，你是否可以介绍一下美国教育咨询中心？这是个什么机构，什么时候设立的，诸如此类的简单介绍？

Lauryne: Yes. We are so delighted to be part of this show, because what we do is help students figure out how to make good decisions about studying in the U.S. Education USA is part of the U.S. Embassy. We offer on-line and mobile advising. So we advise students via social media and through our web site and we also take our show on the road. Jenny is one of the many program managers. She's actually responsible for the Shanghai District. So we go out and give presentations at high schools, colleges, and in other public venues to help students figure out how to do it themselves. We are not commercial agents. We offer official, trusted advice.

马兰：好的。我们很高兴能够参与这个系列，因为我们的工作就是帮助学生搞清楚如何在留学美国的时候做出好的决策。美国教育咨询中心是美国大使馆的一部分。我们提供在线的和电话咨询。即我们通过社交媒体和我们的网站为学生提供咨询，我们也进行路演。

Jenny 是几个项目经理之一。她具体负责上海领区的工作。我们会去中学、大学和其他公共场所作演讲，帮助学生了解自己如何进行申请。我们不是商业中介。我们提供的是官方的、可信赖的咨询。

We look forward to answering questions now.

我们现在欢迎大家提问。

Wang Han: I'm sure that when you guys go out you're very popular. I know there are a lot of people that want to ask you guys questions.

王汉：我肯定你们出去的时候一定特别受欢迎。我知道有很多人都要向你们问问题。

What are some of the most typical questions that you're able to help people with?

哪些是最常见的你们可以帮助人们解决的问题？

Lauryne: I'll start some of the questions, but Jenny, feel free to chime in too.

马兰：我会先介绍一些，Jenny，你随时可以补充。

Usually we get questions like, can I study in the U.S.? How do I go about picking the best school? What if I can't afford to study in the U.S.? They often ask us because we're sometimes confused with commercial agents, they'll say how much do we have to pay you to give us information on studying in the U.S.? How do I talk to my parents? I really want to study in the U.S. but how do I talk to my parents?

首先我们会被问道诸如我能够去美国学习吗？我如何选择最好的学校？如果我不能负担我的学费怎么办？他们经常这样问我们，因为我们有时被人混淆认作为是商业中介，他们会问我们应该付你多少钱来告诉我们留学美国的信息？我应该如何和我的父母来讲？我非常想去美国学习，不过我应该如何告诉我的父母？

We get a lot of questions about different kinds of degrees now too. We used to get questions mainly about MBA programs and engineering, but increasingly we're getting questions about nursing and teaching.

我们现在也会收到关于不同学位的许多问题。以前大部分的问题是有关 MBA 和工程专业的，不过现在也开始收到关于护理专业和教育专业的问题。

Jenny: Legal education.

Jenny: 法律教育。

Lauryne: Right. So we're getting an expanded range of questions beyond can I study, can I afford to study? The specific questions we're getting have to do with majors and financial aid as well. We sometimes get questions about visas, but we never answer those. We refer those to the appropriate places.

马兰：没错。所以我们收到的问题的范围已经超过了类似我是否能够去学习，或我是否能够负担学费这类。我们也收到关于专业和资金资助这类具体问题。有时我们会收到有关签证的问题，但我们从不回答。我们把这些转发给相关部门。

Wang Han: You beat me to my next question which is are there questions you get that really are not what you guys are set up to do. So visas are obviously the main example of that. Are there any other examples?

王汉：你说中了我要问的下一个问题，那就是什么样的问题你们是不受理咨询的。签证是一个明显的主要例子。还有其他例子吗？

Lauryne: We sometimes get questions that are geared, that have to do with younger children. We're really happy that we have the opportunity to go out and talk to middle schoolers and high schoolers. High schoolers because of course they're thinking

about undergraduate education. We're happy to talk to middle school students about campus life and about making the decision to study overseas. But occasionally, we'll get questions about primary school. So questions about, some parents who are interested in sending their third graders, for example to the U.S.. We'll refer those questions. We might be able to provide some resources about boarding schools, but that's not our area of expertise.

马兰：有时我们收到一些关于低年龄孩子的问题。我们很高兴有机会出去和初中生以及高中生交流。和高中生交流是因为他们肯定会考虑到本科教育。我们愿意和初中生谈一谈美国的校园生活以及做出留学美国的决定。不过，有时我们会收到关于小学的问题。一些家长有兴趣把他们小孩子，譬如说三年级的小学生，送到美国去。我们也许可能提供一些关于寄宿制学校的资料，但是这不是我们咨询的专长。

Wang Han: So the main focus is a little bit older, especially universities and graduate school and maybe a little bit of high school or more for post-secondary.

王汉：所以主要的对象是要年纪更大一点的，主要是大学生和研究生，以及一些高中生，以高等教育咨询为主。

Lauryne: More for post-secondary. We provide basic resources for those who are interested in high school.

马兰：更多是高等教育。我们为那些对高中感兴趣的人提供一些基本的信息。

Wang Han: What you said about the fees I think is very important. So what's Education USA's fee?

王汉：我觉得你说到的费用问题很重要。那么美国教育咨询中心的费用是怎样的？

Lauryne: We're free. We're very happy to always say that. Besides being associated with the embassy and consulate one of the many things that distinguish us from the many helpers out there is that we are free.

马兰：我们是免费的。我们非常高兴可以一直这样宣传。除了我们与大使馆和领事馆关系密切，将我们和其他咨询机构区分开的特点之一就是，我们是免费的。

Wang Han: That's a very important point that we want everyone to know. There are a lot of services out there that do charge, but that's not us. We're not a profit-making venture through this.

王汉：这点非常重要，也是我们希望每个人都能了解的。外面有很多服务都是收费的，但我们不是。我们不是一个通过咨询盈利的机构。

Lauryne: I also wanted to mention quickly there are many organizations that sound like us. So Education -- That sound like Education USA and some even pose as Education USA. But

unless they're free and unless they're us, meaning associated with the embassy or consulate, then they're really not us. So we ask people to make sure that if they think they're talking to Education USA, unless they're talking to one of our program managers or to me, they're not.

马兰：我还要提到的是有很多机构名字听起来和我们很像，有些甚至也称自己是 Education USA。但是除非他们是免费的，除非他们是和使馆及领馆有关系的，他们就真的不是我们。我们要大家弄清楚是不是真的和 Education USA 在打交道，如果他们没有和我们某个项目经理或我联系，那么他们就不是。

Wang Han: Are you guys always known as Education USA? Do you have a name in Chinese, or is it always Education USA in English?
王汉：你们一直是被称做 Education USA 吗？有没有中文名称？还是只用英文。

Lauryne: We have a name in Chinese. Jenny should say that.
马兰：我们有中文名称。Jenny 你说。

Jenny:
Jenny：美国教育咨询中心。

Wang Han: Do you want to say it again so everybody can hear it crystal clear?
王汉：你是不是要再说一遍，让大家都能听清楚？

Jenny:
Jenny：美国教育咨询中心。

Wang Han: That's the genuine one. That's us.
王汉：这才是真的那个。这就是我们。

Lauryne: Yes.
马兰：是的。

Wang Han: That's great. I think that covers the basics. We posted this about a week ago so we've gotten some questions in advance. I'll go ahead and ask a couple of those and then we'll take some questions on-line as well.
王汉：太好了。我想上述已经包括了基本信息。一周前我们已经把这个活动的消息发布出去，到现在我们收到了一些问题。我会先挑选其中的几个问题，然后再挑几个网上的问题。

I should say before we start this we may not be able to get to everybody today but we'll try to answer at least the different types of questions that we have received. So if you're watching hopefully we'll get to at least the kind of questions that you put in.

首先我要说明，今天我们可能不能够回答每个人的问题，不过我们会尽量回答我们收到的不同类型的问题。如果你现在正在收看，希望我们将至少回答与你问题相近的那些。

I should also say the web chat today is only in English, but we will do a transcript and we'll translate it into Chinese and then we'll post the video with that transcript, so you will have an opportunity to read all of this in Chinese a little bit later.

我还得说明，今天的网络聊天只是英文的，不过我们将会做对话记录翻译，然后把视频和文字翻译放到网站上去，这样你们就有机会在稍后时间读到中文内容。

The first question is, I found reliable Chinese materials on studying in the U.S. are either very limited or out of date. Do you have any recommendations? Do you have any materials on majors and occupations, for example, occupational employment projections on MBA and social studies? So it's a very practical question.

第一个问题是，我发现关于美国留学的可靠的中文资料很少或者太旧了。你们有什么好的推荐？你们是否有关于专业和职业方面的材料，譬如，MBA 和社会学的未来就业状况预测？这是一个非常实用性的问题。

Lauryne: I think we can probably both answer that question. First of all, one of the problems is there's too much information. So one of the challenges that parents and students face is they don't know how to sift through that information and to know what of that information they can trust. So we at Education USA are really happy to be able to serve as a trusted source of information and be able to provide links and on-line advice and advice through our social media, about not just MBA programs but other programs as well.

马兰：我想我们两个都可以回答这个问题。首先，目前的问题之一就是信息太多了。家长和学生面临的挑战之一就是他们不知道如何在如此多的信息中进行筛选，不知道何种信息才是他们可以信赖的。所以我们美国教育咨询中心是非常愿意能够作为一个值得信赖的信息源来给予帮助，通过社会媒体为 MBA 项目和其他项目提供链接和在线咨询。

Jenny, do you want to answer in particular about the business?
Jenny, 你要不要回答一下这个问题？

Jenny: Okay. I want to also add that at Education USA we have a publication called "If you want to study." The Chinese name is _____. This book has four booklets. They are all available, downloadable on Education USA's official web site which is www.educationusa.info. You can find this book on the web site. So this is a trusted source for prospective students and their parents. It's both in English and Chinese, so it's very handy.

Jenny: 好的。我想要补充的是, 美国教育咨询中心有一套出版物叫“如果你想留学美国”。这套书是四册的。可以从我们中心的网站上下载, 我们的网站是 www.educationusa.info。这是适合于学生和家长的可信赖的材料。是中英文的, 非常方便。

Wang Han: That's great. As a follow-up question to your intro, you mentioned that you go out and do a lot of public speaking. But if people are looking for you, there's the web site, and that's the place to start, I assume. Is that correct?

王汉: 太好了。另一个跟进的问题, 你刚才提到你们会出去做很多公共讲演。如果人们要联系你们, 可以通过网站, 我想那是可以开始查找信息的地方, 对吗?

Jenny: Yes. This is one place to start.

Jenny: 是的, 这是一个可以联系我们的地方。

Lauryne: We also have many social media -- We'll be able to give you all the information about how to reach us because we may not get to all the questions today and we want students to be able to reach us, be able to follow up with us directly for advice on studying in the U.S..

马兰: 我们还有其他一些社交媒体。我们可以给你所有如何联系我们的方法, 因为我们今天也许不能回答所有问题, 学生们可以之后联系我们, 能够直接向我们继续咨询留学美国的建议。

I want to make sure we answered the question about business. One of the things that we point out is that there are many business degrees. We have students who come to us and say we want an MBA. We try to take the time with them to get them to ask the questions. Hmm, MBA that's very broad. There are many different kind of business programs, and many programs even within MBA programs that are specialized. We try to get students to figure out what kind of program are they really after. Sometimes it's not even a business degree at all.

我想要确保我们回答了关于商科的问题。需要指出的事情之一是, 有很多种商科学位。我们遇到过学生过来讲要学习 MBA。我们就要花时间引导他们问更多的问题。嗯, MBA 是非常宽泛的。有很多种不同的商科项目, 即使在 MBA 项目里也有很多的专专业性。我们力图要让学生明白他们真正要学习的是哪一种项目。有时, 他们要的可能并不是商科学位。

Jenny, you know the various kinds of business degrees. Do you want to give us just a couple of examples?

Jenny, 你了解商科学位的多样化。你可以举几个例子吗?

Jenny: At the graduate level there are a lot of business major programs. Finance, accounting MBA, and MBA actually has a different focus. Some MBA programs are focused on accounting, some on information systems, some focus on finance, some focus

on management. So there are a lot of variations for business degrees at the graduate level.

Jenny: 在研究生层面有很多商科专业项目。譬如, 金融和会计类 MBA, MBA 实际上是有不同侧重的。一些 MBA 项目侧重会计, 另一些侧重信息系统, 还有侧重金融或管理的。所以在研究生层面有很多不同的商科学位。

Lauryne: It often depends on a student's preparations. We often get asked, do you have to have a major in business in order to apply to an MBA program? That answer is yes or no, it depends on the program the student is applying to.

马兰: 这也经常取决于学生的准备。我们常被问道, 为了申请 MBA 是不是必须要有商科学历背景? 这个问题的是否取决于申请者要申请什么项目。

So again, one of the American values is do it yourself. So have the information, know where to go for the information and we can help point students in the right direction to know where to go for that information in order to make a good decision about an MBA or any other program.

所以说, 美国的价值观之一就是自己动手。拥有信息, 知道哪里可以获得信息, 我们可以指导学生正确的方向, 帮助他们在选择 MBA 或其他项目上做出正确的决定。

Wang Han: This reminds me, in the earlier web chat we did on student life in the U.S. one of the main themes we talked about was just the diversity of American schools and programs and there are so many different types of schools and different programs. We encourage people to be open minded about it. It's not just the best school, second best school, third best school, but what is it you want to study. Schools are very good in different programs. I assume you also tell students something like this.

王汉: 这也让我想起在之前的网络聊天里, 我们做过一期关于美国学生生活的, 其中谈到的主题之一就是美国学校和项目的多样性, 我们有很多不同类型的学校 and 不同类型的项目。我们鼓励人们有个开放的心态。这不仅仅是学校的排名, 所谓的最好的学校、第二好的学校或第三..., 而是你要去学习什么。各个学校在不同的学科项目里各有所长。我想你可以谈一谈这个话题。

Lauryne: You just hit on a topic we often talk about that has to do with rankings. Often students will think I only want to go to this school, that school or the other school and they'll name five schools that they consider to be the top schools, because these are schools they've heard of. Those might not be the schools that have the best or the right match for the student asking. So we just used the example of MBA for example. Does School A have the most appropriate MBA program for the kind

of degree the student is seeking? Or more importantly perhaps the kind of work afterwards the student is seeking.

马兰：你正好说中了我们经常讨论的一个话题，即排名。经常会有学生只想去这个或那个学校，他们往往会列出 5 个他们认为的顶尖名校，因为他们只听说过这些。而这些学校也许不是最适合他们的。我们再用 MBA 来作例子。学校 A 会有最适合申请学生的 MBA 项目吗？或许更重要是要考虑之后的工作。

So in addition to do it yourself we try to get students to focus on the best match for them and we try to get students the tools to make that decision. So don't just look at the name of the school or even the name of a degree, but look at the programs themselves. Talk to students on campus. There are students at the U.S. institutions that are really happy to talk to international students including other Chinese students. Talk to the faculty. So we like to show students how to do the research in order to make the best match.

所以除了学生自己要去了解，我们也努力帮助学生找到最适合他们的学校，为他们提供做出决定的工具。所以不要只是看学校的名字，甚至是某个学位名称，要了解项目本身。跟该校的学生交流。美国大学里有不少学生都乐意与国际学生包括中国学生交流。向老师们了解。我们愿意向学生展示如何寻找最适合自己的学校。

Wang Han: So the good news I think for Chinese who are interested in studying in the States is there may be many many more possibilities that they're aware of for them in the U.S.. The bad news is they have to do more research maybe than they thought they did. Maybe they already started with a list, but maybe the list really isn't big enough.

王汉：所以好消息是，对有兴趣到美国学习的中国学生来说，他们正意识到在美国有很多很多的可能性。不过坏消息是，他们可能需要做比原本预想的更多的准备工作。也许他们已经开始了准备工作列表，但可能这个单子还不够全面。

Lauryne: The other good news is we're here to help them.

马兰：另一个好消息是我们在这里随时准备帮助他们。

Wang Han: That's the really good news, that you're there to help them. They don't have to do it completely by themselves. That's a very good point.

王汉：这真是个好消息，有了你们的帮助，他们不需要完全自己来作。这点很好。

The next question is, I'd like to learn how to choose a school for MSA study. Regarding this issue, what's the difference between a job oriented consideration and an academic oriented one. Is it true that studying in a big city will give students a wider view?

下一个问题是，我想知道去学 MSA，如何选择学校。在择校时，考虑就业前景或学术背景有什么不同。是不是在大城市里学习会给学生带来更广阔的视野？

I'm not sure I know what MSA is.
我不清楚什么是 MSA。

Lauryne: I'm not sure either. Sometimes we get questions like this and sometimes they're typos so we try to think if they really mean an MBA. But we're happy to answer any of the questions.

马兰：我也不太清楚。我们有时候会收到这样的问题，有时候他们可能只是书写的错误，我们会看他们是不是其实在说 MBA。但任何问题我们都欢迎。

The most interesting part of that question has to do with, two parts. One, the student is clearly paying attention to what kind of work he or she will get after the degree. The other part refers to geographic location. We love that kind of question because students do need to ask themselves, hmm, do we want to live in a big city or a small town? A big city in the U.S. is often a small town in China. So in addition to helping students look at the programs or the schools themselves we ask them to take a look at the city, the town, the state, the bordering states. We ask them to consider climate. We ask them to consider activities that are available on campus. Any travel they may want to do.

那个问题最有趣的是两部分。第一，这名学生很明显想到了他/她获得学位后能找到什么工作的问题。第二，是提到了地理位置。我们喜欢这样的问题，因为学生们的确需要问问自己，我是希望居住在一个大都市还是小镇呢？美国的大城市往往也只有中国一个小县城的规模。所以在帮助学生了解项目和学校之外，我们会鼓励学生多了解下那个城市、镇、州以及相邻的州。我们建议学生了解当地的气候。我们建议学生了解校园活动。他们可能的旅行等。

So to answer the student's question, there may be more opportunities in a bigger city than a small town, but a small town could offer just the right opportunity the student needs to show they've had that experience in order to get a good job in the future.

所以回到这位学生的问题，大城市的机会和能比小镇多，但也可能是小镇恰好能提供学生需要的机会，而这些可能为他们今后获得好工作提供宝贵的经历。

Wang Han: Absolutely.

A third question, is it possible to go study after college graduation?

王汉：确实。

第三个问题是，大学毕业后去留学可能吗？

Lauryne: Yes. Of course it's possible. That's what graduate school is, right? It is absolutely possible. There are a broad range of graduate programs. We like to think of they're sort of teaching programs, there are also the professions. Jenny is an expert in the professions. She mentioned earlier law, business, medical professions.

马兰：当然。当然可能。这就是为什么有研究生院，对吧？这是完全可能的。可供选择的研究生项目很多。我们倾向把这看作是教育项目，同时也有职业教育。Jenny 是职业教育方面的专家。她刚才提到了法律、商业和医科。

Wang Han: So those are some of the questions that were submitted in advance and we have more, but I also want to look at the questions being submitted live.

My family doesn't have much money for my tuition. I wonder if I may apply for American government financial aid when I go to the U.S. for studying.

王汉：这些就是我们提前收到的一些问题，还有更多，但我也希望看看在线提交的问题。

我的家庭没有太多的钱给我交学费。我想知道我去美国读书后是否可以申请美国政府的财政资助？

Jenny: Financial aid from the government is only for U.S. students, not for international students. But schools, individual schools, universities, colleges, they do have funding for international students. So students need to check scholarship availability.

Jenny：政府的财政资助只限于美国学生，国际学生无权申请。但学校、各个学院、大学往往有针对国际学生的经济资助。所以学生需要察看奖学金的情况。

Lauryne: We just want to make sure students understand that not being able to afford education in the U.S., that shouldn't be a barrier. We can help students figure out what financial resources may exist.

马兰：我们希望学生明白经济上无法负担美国的教育不应该成为一个障碍。我们可以帮学生了解存在哪些经济资助。

Wang Han: Right. And I think also, when you talk about education in the U.S. I think there are a lot of issues about American society in general that come up and a lot of differences between the U.S. and China and one of the things this touches on is the fact that colleges and universities with only a couple of exceptions in the U.S., they are not federal government universities. So the federal government does give some scholarships, but that doesn't mean that individual schools can't give their own scholarships as you just mentioned. Most public schools in the States are state schools. That's different than in China where schools belong to the central government often.

王汉：对。我觉得我们提起美国的教育时，一些关于美国社会和中美差别的问题也会被提及。其中一点是大学和综合性大学，除了少数例外，并不是联邦政府大学。所以虽然联邦政府确实会提供一些奖学金，但这并不意味着各个学校不可以提供你刚才提到的这种奖学金。美国的大多公立学校是州立大学。这与中国学校大多附属于中央政府的情况不同。

Lauryne: That's right. There are different kinds of financial aid too, we can elaborate. So for the student asking the question, if you want to follow up, feel free to.

马兰：是的。而且经济资助的种类也多种多样。我们可以详细介绍。所以这位提问的同学如果想详细了解，欢迎你跟我们联系。

Wang Han: And in addition to schools there are also many foundations and charities, et cetera, that set up sometimes very targeted scholarships as well. That's actually a whole other area to research.

王汉：而且除了学校之外，还有很多基金会和慈善组织等等往往设有非常有针对性的奖学金。这是需要研究的另外一个领域了。

Another question, this is another MBA related question. What kind of work experience is best for an MBA program? I think switching that a little bit, is it always necessary to have work experience before applying to an MBA program.

另一个问题，又是关于 MBA 的。什么样的工作经历申请 MBA 项目最好？另外延伸一点的话，申请 MBA 必须有工作经验吗？

Lauryne: This gives us an opportunity, I'll just mention service for a few minutes and then you can address the MBA.

这给了我们一个机会。我会先讲一下服务，然后你可以谈 MBA。

Work experience. One of the things that may be a new idea to Chinese students is the idea of service learning or community service on campus or off campus. **Instead of only focusing on an actual job, having had a particular kind of job, even if there is a limited volunteer service at a company or organization or school, I think that this counts as experience.** So in order to apply for an MBA program or a teaching, any graduate program, it's very useful to have some kind of on-the-job experience but that doesn't necessarily mean you have to have been fully employed at a company or organization. Showing a willingness to volunteer and a diversity of experience is what's important.

工作经验。对中国学生来说，可能比较新鲜的一个概念是从服务中学习或者校内外的社区服务。我们不是只看实际的工作，有过特定的工作经历，即使是在公司、组织或学校的志愿者服务，这些也算是经历。所以要申请 MBA、教育类或任何研究生项目，有工作经验是很大的帮助，当然这并不意味着你必须全职受雇于某一公司或组织。展示做志愿工作的意愿和丰富的经历才是最重要的。

Would you agree, Jenny?

你同意吗，Jenny?

Jenny: Yes. I agree. A lot of MBA programs do require work experience but the length of your work experience and the type of your work experience can vary.

Jenny: 是的，我同意。很多 MBA 项目确实需要工作经历，但你工作经历的长短和内容可以不尽相同。

Lauryne: One of the things we ask, part of the Education USA staff, what we do is research ourselves. We go out and ask business professionals, we're talking presidents of organizations and companies. We say what's your ideal employee? What kind of background, what kind of skills, what kind of education do they need? They often talk about a liberal arts education and a broad range of experiences. So one of our consistent messages is yes, do well in school but also get out there and do some kind of work, whether it's paid or unpaid.

马兰：我们在美国教育咨询中心也会要求工作人员作相关的研究。我们会走出去咨询商业人士，与不同机构和公司的领导和总裁交谈。我们问他们的理想雇员是什么样的，需要有

怎样的背景和技能，需要什么样的教育？他们往往提到文科教育和广泛的经历。所以我们一贯的建议就是好好学习，但同时走出去，做各种工作，不管是有偿的还是无偿的。

Wang Han: You also mentioned community service. Do you mind just elaborating for a minute on what you mean by that?

王汉：你还提到了社区服务。你可以稍微详细介绍一下吗？

Lauryne: Sure. Do you want to talk about community service a little bit?

You can chime in. Community service is volunteerism, so finding something -- in part it can be volunteering. So finding something you're interested in on campus, off campus, in your community. But find something you're passionate about or that you feel you can be helpful in accomplishing a task, for example. Some people like to read books to kids at schools, some people are really concerned about environmental awareness so they help around their school, recycle paper or get everyone enthused about recycling, for example. So community service, the way we talk about it, is a way for students to show a part of themselves that's not an academic score. Remember in the U.S. it's important to have good grades and good test scores, but what admission officials want to know is who is it that's applying to this school? You as a student are not just a number or a test score. Community service helps show a broader range of who you are as a person.

马兰：当然。你想稍微介绍一下社区服务吗？

你可以随时补充。社区服务是志愿者精神。在校内外，或你所在的社区找自己感兴趣的事情。找自己有热情，或帮得上忙的事情。例如，有人喜欢给学校的孩子们读书，有人非常关心环境问题，所以他们在学校帮助废纸回收，宣传环境意识。所以，社区服务在我们看来是学生展示他们学习成绩之外的部分。要记住在美国，好的学分和考试成绩很重要，但录取官也想了解申请的学生是什么样的人。作为学生，你不仅仅只是一个数字或考分。社区服务可以更宽泛地展示你的为人。

Wang Han: A job is one way to possibly show a graduate school that you're a good candidate but this is a whole other possibility. Getting a job can be very challenging, but people love people to volunteer for their organization so that's a much easier option it seems like.

工作是向研究生学院展示你是好的候选人的一种方式，但同时也带来另外一种可能。找工作可能很难，但人们喜欢愿意为他们的组织志愿服务的人，所以这似乎是更容易的选择。

I like this question. This person is planning far, far ahead. I'm a sophomore and I want to study in the U.S. in graduate school. What do I need to do?

我喜欢下面这个问题。这位同学在超前计划。我是大学二年级，我想去美国读研究生。我该做些什么呢？

So if somebody is looking several years ahead, what is it they can start thinking about now?

所以如果有人是提前几年准备，他们可以先考虑什么呢？

Jenny: I think the most important thing for them is do well at his school or her school right now. So get a very good GPA, learn as much as possible. Learn English well so when you go to study in the U.S. you have the required English proficiency. Also find your interest. Find the field of your study. What kind of program you want to enter in.

Jenny: 我觉得最重要的你学好自己学校目前的功课。取得好的学分,尽量多学习。尽可能学好英语,这样你去美国学习时就具备了要求的英语熟练度。另外找到自己的兴趣点。找自己想学习的领域。你想要申请什么项目。

Lauryne: I want to add something about the English part too. This isn't just test score English that we're talking about. We're talking about English that allows you to interact with American and other international students once on a U.S. campus. This means conversational English and feeling comfortable enough with the language. For a student starting as a sophomore, that's a great, great start. Reading English materials, watching English programs and talking to other English speakers. Starting now the student is likely to be a fantastic candidate in the future.

马兰: 就英语语言学习我也想补充一点。这并不仅仅指你需要通过的英文成绩。我们指能够允许你和美国学生及其他国际学生自如交流的英文。这是指日常对话英语,并自如使用。对大二的学生来说,现在准备是很好的开始。阅读英文材料、看英文节目并和说英语的人交流。现在开始的话,这位学生非常有可能成为一个很棒的候选人。

Wang Han: That's a great point, the importance of English. Obviously the better your English the better your options are, but there are a range of English levels out there. So what about Chinese students that don't have very good English. Do you have any recommendations or advice for them?

王汉：很有道理，英文确实很重要。很明显，你的英文越好，可选择的空间越大。但大家的英文水平都不尽相同。对于英文不是特别好的中国学生呢？你有什么建议给他们吗？

Jenny: Read more, write more.

Jenny: 多读，多写。

Lauryne: There are other programs available to students whose English is not where they are comfortable. There are summer intensive programs, for example. It's possible, not at every school, but it's possible to be admitted conditionally. Upon your admission it's required that you take some intensive English language to be brought up to speed.

You have to remember U.S. institutions want their students to succeed. So we are as Americans open, so our doors are wide open. It's not a barrier if your English isn't 100 percent where you want it, but there is the expectation that you do the work necessary that you bring it up to the point where you'll be successful in any program.

马兰：有很多项目供对自己英文水平不满意的学生选择。例如，有暑期强化项目。有些学校，虽然不是所有学校，允许有条件录取。你入学时会被要求参加强化英语项目，使语言水平迎头赶上。

需要记住的一点是，美国的学校希望他们的学生能够成功。美国很开放，我们的门也是敞开的。你对自己的英文不是百分之百满意也不一定会成为录取障碍。但我们希望你能够努力学习迎头赶上，从而能在任何项目中取得成功。

Wang Han: Another question that's just come in. For applying to undergraduates besides the SAT, TOFEL and other tests, work outside school, is it important that my high school be a famous one?

I think the question is how important is the sort of quality of your high school when you're applying to U.S. schools. Do people that go to famous high schools have an advantage versus people who go to ordinary high schools? How much of a consideration is this?

王汉：又刚收到一个问题。要申请本科学习，除了 SAT、TOFEL、其他考试以及校外活动之外，我就读的高中是否需要是著名高中？

我想这个问题的意思是你就读的高中对申请美国大学的重要性。就读重点高中的相对普通高中的学生会有优势吗？这方面是如何考虑的？

Lauryne: The great thing about the U.S. is there's room for everyone and there's a program for everyone. That's why Education USA exists, to help students figure out the best program for them.

I can assure you that admissions officers cannot name the famous high schools in China so that won't be a consideration at all. Now, you mentioned good academic preparation. We've observed through going to various high schools in China that very good preparation happens for college at not so famous high schools in China. Just because a high school isn't famous, doesn't mean the academic preparation won't make that student a good applicant for a U.S. institution.

Again, good grades are one thing, good test scores are another thing, but a broad range of experience, filling out -- students need to fill out of course their own applications and not rely on agents to do that. They need to write their own essays. They need to be who they say they are. These are all good tips for students coming from famous or not so famous schools. But we really don't think that it's the name of the school that matters.

马兰：美国教育制度的好处是为每个人提供空间，对每个学生都有适合他的项目。这就是为什么我们设立美国教育咨询中心的原因，来帮助学生选择最适合他们的项目。

我可以向你保证美国的录取官并不知道中国哪些高中是名校，所以这一点根本不会成为考量标准。你刚提到了好的学术准备。我们访问中国许多高校，发现很多不是名校的高中也为大学入学提供良好的学术准备。一所高中不是名校，并不意味着其学术准备不足以使一名学生成为美国高校的合格申请者。

另外我想再次强调，好的学分是一回事，好的考试分数是另外一回事，还有广泛的社会经验和填材料也很重要。学生需要自己填写申请，而不依靠中介。他们也需要自己写文章，需要真实地展现他们所描述的自己。无论你是来自名校还是非名校，这些都是很好的建议。但是我们并不认为学校的名望有多大的影响。

Wang Han: Right. Actually what you just said goes along with that. I think what American schools are interested in is the individual. Not the school they come from. But the flip side is, students have to remember they want the application to reflect that individual. They don't want it to reflect somebody else. That's what they're really interested in, it seems to me. Would you agree with that?

王汉：是的。我很同意你的观点。我想美国高校看重的是学生个体的素质，而不是他们来自哪所学校。但同时，学生要记住他们的申请应该反映他们个人。高校不希望申请反映的是另外一个人。我觉得这似乎是高校真正感兴趣的。你同意吗？

Lauryne: One hundred percent. What admission officials look for, they ask two basic questions. What is this applicant in front of me going to bring to the school? And what will this applicant gain from our school? Those are two basic questions that get asked.

So of course the student has to tell his or her story. Who am I? Why do I want to go to this school? Of course the student will have had to do his or her homework to be able to answer authentically, and I think that again, the name of the institution from which the student comes is only one part of the student's story.

马兰：完全同意。录取考官会带着两个基本的问题看待每一份申请。我面前的这位申请人能给学校带来什么？他能从我们的学校学到什么？这是他们要问的两个基本问题。

所以学生一定会讲述他/她的故事。他/她是谁？为什么想选择这个学校？当然，学生是要有所准备才能真实地回答这些问题。所以我再次认为，学生来自于哪所学校仅仅是他/她故事的一部分。

Wang Han: Could you explain in more detail about how to transfer from a community college to a four year university? Are there some agreements between community colleges and universities so that people who choose to enter a community college first should look at those agreements?

王汉：你能再详细介绍下怎样从社区大学转到四年全日制大学吗？社区大学和综合性大学之前有没有什么协议是申请社区大学的学生在申请时需要注意的？

Jenny: Yes. A lot of community colleges have a transfer agreement to four year colleges. If you start at a community college you should go to talk to your international advisor to tell them you want to transfer. And then they will help you. The advisor at the community college will help you to select classes so that all the classes you take at the community college can be accepted, can be transferred to four year college.

Jenny：是的。很多社区大学和四年制大学之间有转校协议。如果你考取的是社区大学，你应该找到他们的国际辅导员，告诉他你想转校。他们会帮助你。辅导员会指导你选择将来转校后被四年制大学承认的课程。

Lauryne: If the student wants to know how to get that information it's really not necessary to look at the actual agreement the schools have. Those would be hard to find. But most community colleges list the four year institutions that they have such agreements with, and sometimes the four year institutions list the community colleges they have a relationship with. As Jenny said, one of the most important things for Chinese students, once they get on campus, is to make sure they develop a relationship with the international student advisor. They shouldn't be shy. They should make sure the advisors knows I'm here at this community college and I want to do well here, but at the same time I'm looking to the future, so can you help me prepare a course of study that will lead me to the four year institution of that student's choice.

马兰: 如果学生想了解怎样能获取这些信息, 并不一定要找到学校间具体的合作协议。这可能很难找到。但大多数社区大学会列出他们签有转校协议的四年制大学, 一些四年制大学也会列出他们合作的社区大学。如刚才 Jenny 提到的, 对中国学生来说最重要的, 是入校后, 与该校的国际辅导员取得联系。学生们一定不能害羞。他们要让辅导员知道我在这个学校学习, 我希望在这里能成功, 但同时我也要给将来做准备, 所以请帮我设计课程以使我将来能够转到我所选择的四年制高校。

Wang Han: I think that's very useful information for people. Also it's a way of reminding people there are community colleges out there also and that's also a route to take.

I think we've covered most of the bases here today. Before we say goodbye to people watching are there any other points you'd like to mention or emphasize?

王汉: 我想这些信息对大家一定非常有用。另外也提醒了大家社区大学有时候也不失为一个选择。

我想我们今天已经把重要的话题都聊到了。在我们说再见之前, 你还有什么要补充或强调的吗?

Lauryne: We hope this isn't really goodbye, just goodbye for this section. We hope to hear from any and all students and parents who are interested in studying in the U.S. You mentioned that this will be transcribed in Chinese, so we will make sure that all of our contact information is readily available to everyone. We hope to be asked back not just by you there, but if you're a student and you're watching we'd love to come to your school and make a presentation to you and your classmates as well.

马兰：我希望这不是真正的再见，而仅仅是我们这个环节的再见。我们希望所有希望去美国留学的学生和家长朋友们能够跟我们取得联系。你刚提到我们这次对话会被翻译成中文，所以我们会确保给大家留下我们的联系方式。我们希望有机会回来，也希望观众中如果有学生的话，你能够邀请我们到你的学校做演讲和介绍。

Wang Han: I'll just put in a plug for the East China students. I know there are great students all over China, but I talk to my colleagues in the consular section and they see just terrifically qualified students from this part of China all the time. So we know in Shanghai, Jiangsu, Zhejiang, Anhui, there are lots of great students out there.

Thank you very much. I think that was extremely informative and I hope we can do this again sometime.

王汉：在这儿我要给我们华东地区的学生做个广告。我知道中国到处都有非常优秀的学生；但我和领事处的同事聊天时，他们非常感叹华东地区学生素质之高。所以我们知道，上海、江苏、浙江和安徽一定有许多优秀的学生。

非常感谢。今天的对话信息量很大，我希望将来有机会能再对话。

Lauryne: We hope so too. Thank you very much.

马兰：我们也希望如此。非常感谢。

Jenny: Thank you.

Jenny：谢谢。

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